

City of Minneapolis
Request for Committee Action

To: Ways & Means
Date: 11/2/2015
From: City Attorney's Office
Prepared by: Susan Segal, City Attorney
Presented by: Susan Segal, City Attorney
File type: Action
Subcategory: Grant

Subject:

Accept Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Grant

Description:

Authorizing acceptance of \$155,522.00 grant award from Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs for funding under the FY 15 Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program: Planning.

Previous Actions:

None

Ward/Address:

Ward 9

Background/Analysis:

The City Attorney's Office (CAO) has been awarded a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (BCJIP) planning grant in the amount of \$155,522 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. The goal of BCJIP is to reduce crime and improve community safety through a broad cross-sector partnership, including neighborhood residents, focusing on hot spots of violent and serious crime, employing a data-driven, cross-sector strategy to reduce crime and violence.

This planning grant focuses on Little Earth of United Tribes. This is a unique community. It is the only Native American preference public housing community in the nation. It is home to members of over 20 tribal nations and over 1,000 residents. The community has many assets and is a nationally recognized leader and innovator in providing services and education to the American Indian community. It also, however, has numerous challenges including persistent violence, heroin use, poverty and other issues related to historical and cultural trauma unique to Native populations. There is an awareness that domestic violence and juvenile sex trafficking occur, but are often not reported. There is a strong partnership between leadership at Little Earth and law enforcement, but there is a lack of trust by community members.

The grant is for an 18 month period of time with the goal of developing a culturally specific, sustainable plan to reduce violence at Little Earth. The partners for the grant include Little Earth staff and community members, the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD), the Minneapolis Health Department, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and researchers from Hamline University.

The grant award includes funding for Little Earth to provide a part-time community safety champion, community education coordinator and leadership staff to participate and help lead the planning process. Little Earth community members will be active partners and participants in this process. The grant also includes funding for work by an MPD Crime Analyst and the Hamline Research team. The City Attorney's Office will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant and will contribute staff time from existing resources to support this planning grant effort.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

\$7500.00 from grant funds to be used for MPD Crime Analyst

Attachments:

None